carrier who has been designated to handle disputes under the Railway Labor Act, or by the chief executive of the labor organization, whichever party files the application. These applications, after preliminary investigation in the Board's offices, are given docket number in series "A" and the cases are assigned for mediation to Board members or to mediators on the Board's staff.

[11 FR 177A-923, Sept. 11, 1946. Redesignated at 13 FR 8740, Dec. 30, 1948, as amended at 64 FR 40287, July 26, 1999]

§ 1203.2 Investigation of representation disputes.

Applications for the services of the National Mediation Board under section 2, ninth, of the Railway Labor Act to investigate representation disputes among carriers' employees may be made on printed forms NMB-3, copies of which may be secured from the Board's Representation and Legal Department or on the Internet at www.nmb.gov. Such applications and all correspondence connected therewith should be filed in duplicate and the applications should be accompanied by signed authorization cards from the employees composing the craft or class involved in the dispute. The applications should show specifically the name or description of the craft of class of employees involved, the name of the invoking organization, the name of the organization currently representing the employees, if any, and the estimated number of employees in each craft or class involved. The applications should be signed by the chief executive of the invoking organization, or other authorized officer of the organization. These disputes are given docket numbers in series "R".

[43 FR 30053, July 13, 1978, as amended at 64 FR 40287, July 26, 1999]

§ 1203.3 Interpretation of mediation agreements.

(a) Applications may be filed with the Board's Chief of Staff under section 5, Second, of the Railway Labor Act, for the interpretation of agreements reached in mediation under section 5, First. Such applications may be made by letter from either party to the mediation agreement stating the specific question on which an interpretation is desired.

(b) This function of the National Mediation Board is not intended to conflict with the provisions of section 3 of the Railway Labor Act. Providing for interpretation of agreements by the National Railroad Adjustment Board. Many complete working agreements are revised with the aid of the Board's mediating services, and it has been the Board's policy that disputes involving the interpretation or application of such agreements should be handled by the Adjustment Board. Under this section of the law the Board when called upon may only consider and render an interpretation on the specific terms of an agreement actually signed in mediation, and not for matters incident or corollary thereto.

[11 FR 177A-923, Sept. 11, 1946. Redesignated at 13 FR 8740, Dec. 30, 1948, as amended at 64 FR 40287, July 26, 1999]

PART 1204—LABOR CONTRACTS

Sec.

1204.1 Making and maintaining contracts.

1204.2 Arbitrary changing of contracts.

1204.3 Filing of contracts.

AUTHORITY: 44 Stat. 577, as amended; 45 U.S.C. 151-163.

SOURCE: 11 FR 177A-924, Sept. 11, 1946, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 13 FR 8740, Dec. 30, 1948.

§ 1204.1 Making and maintaining contracts.

It is the duty of all carriers, their officers, agents, and employees to exert every reasonable effort to make and maintain contracts covering rates of pay, rules, and working conditions.

§ 1204.2 Arbitrary changing of contracts.

No carrier, its officers, or agents shall change the rates of pay, rules, or working conditons of its employees, as a class as embodied in agreements except in the manner prescribed in such agreements or in section 6 of the Railway Labor Act.

§1204.3 Filing of contracts.

Section 5, Third, (e) of the Railway Labor Act requires all carriers to file with the National Mediation Board

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copies of all contracts in effect with organizations representing their employees, covering rates of pay, rules, and working conditions. Several thousand of such contracts are on file in the Board's Washington office and are available for inspection by interested parties.

PART 1205—NOTICES IN RE: RAILWAY LABOR ACT

Sec.

1205.1 Handling of disputes.

1205.2 Employees' Bill of Rights.

1205.3 General Order No. 1.

1205.4 Substantive rules.

AUTHORITY: 44 Stat. 577, as amended; 45 U.S.C. 151–163.

SOURCE: 11 FR 177A-924, Sept. 11, 1946, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 13 FR 8740, Dec. 30, 1948.

§ 1205.1 Handling of disputes.

Section 2, Eighth, of the Railway Labor Act provides that every carrier shall notify its employees by printed notices in such form and posted at such times and places as shall be specified by order of the Mediation Board and requires that all disputes between a carrier and its employees will be handled in accordance with the requirements of the act. In such notices there must be printed verbatim, in large type, the third, fourth, and fifth paragraphs of said section 2, Eighth, of the Railway Labor Act.

§ 1205.2 Employees' Bill of Rights.

The provisions of the third, fourth, and fifth paragraphs of section 2 are by law made a part of the contract of employment between the carrier and each employee and shall be binding upon the parties regardless of any other express or implied agreements between them. Under these provisions the employees are guaranteed the right to organize without interference of management, the right to determine who shall represent them, and the right to bargain collectively through such representatives. This section makes it unlawful for any carrier to require any person seeking employment to sign any contract promising to join or not to join a labor organization. Violation of the foregoing provisions is a misdemeanor

under the law and subjects the offender to punishment.

§1205.3 General Order No. 1.

General Order No. 1, issued August 14, 1934, is the only order the Board has issued since its creation in 1934. This order sent to the President of each carrier coming under the act transmitted a sample copy of the Mediation Board's Form MB-1 known as "Notice in re: Railway Labor Act." The order prescribes that such notices are to be standard as to contents, dimensions of sheet, and size of type and that they shall be posted promptly and maintained continuously in readable condition on all the usual and customary bulletin boards giving information to employees and at such other places as may be necessary to make them accessible to all employees. Such notices must not be hidden by other papers or otherwise obscured from view.

§ 1205.4 Substantive rules.

The only substantive rules issued by the National Mediation Board are those authorized under section 2, Ninth, of the Railway Labor Act to implement the procedure of determining employee representation.

 $[12\ FR\ 2451,\ April\ 16,\ 1947.\ Redesignated\ at\ 13\ FR\ 8740,\ Dec.\ 30,\ 1948,\ as\ amended\ at\ 64\ FR\ 40287,\ July\ 26,\ 1999]$

PART 1206—HANDLING REPRESEN-TATION DISPUTES UNDER THE RAILWAY LABOR ACT

Sec

1206.1 Run-off elections.

1206.2 Percentage of valid authorizations required to determine existence of a representation dispute.

1206.3 Age of authorization cards.

1206.4 Time limits on applications.

1206.5 Necessary evidence of intervenor's interest in a representation dispute.

1206.6 Eligibility of dismissed employees to vote.

1206.7 Construction of this part.

1206.8 Amendment or rescission of rules in this part.

AUTHORITY: 44 Stat. 577, as amended; 45 U.S.C. 151-163.

SOURCE: 12 FR 3083, May 10, 1947, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 13 FR 8740, Dec. 30, 1948.